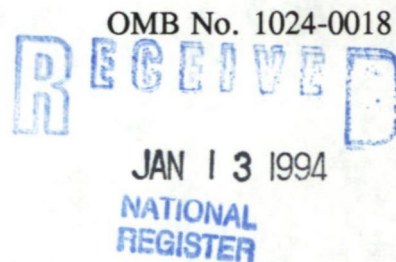


NPS Form 10-900
(Rev. 8-86)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REGISTRATION FORM



1. Name of Property

Historic Name: NAS Chase Field, Building 1040

Other name/site number: Auditorium/Gym/Chapel

2. Location

Street & Number: Enterprise Street, 0.37 miles south-southeast of the intersection of
Texas State Highway 202 and Independence Street

City/Town: Beeville

Not for Publication: N/A

State: TX Code: 041 County: Bee

Code: 025 Zip Code: 78102

3. Classification

Ownership of Property: Public: federal

Category of Property: Building

Number of Resources within Property: 1

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	0	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	0	objects
1	0	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

Name of related multiple property listing: Historic and Architectural
Resources of NAS Chase Field,
Beeville, Texas.

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official

Date

State Historic Preservation Officer, Texas Historical Commission
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ✓ meets does not meet the National Register criteria.
See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

✓ entered in the National Register
See continuation sheet.

_____ determined eligible for the
National Register

_____ See continuation sheet.

_____ determined not eligible for the
National Register

_____ removed from the National Register

_____ other (explain):

Entered in the
National Register

Guym. Lapsley

Date of Action

Signature of Keeper

6. Function or Use

Historic: Defense

Sub: Naval Facility

Current : Vacant/Not in Use

Sub:

7. Description

Architectural Classification: No Style

Materials: foundation: Concrete
 walls: Synthetics
 roof: Asphalt
 other:

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

☒ See continuation sheet.

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

Applicable National Register Criteria: A

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions): Not Applicable

Areas of Significance: Military

Period(s) of Significance: 1943-1945

Significant Dates: 1943

Significant Person(s): Not Applicable

Cultural Affiliation: Not Applicable

Architect/Builder: Robert & Company/Brown Bellows & Columbia

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

☒ See continuation sheet.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Historic Context List of References.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☒ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☒ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # HABS No. TX-3397-D
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Primary Location of Additional Data:

- ☒ State historic preservation office
- ☐ Other state agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other -- Specify Repository:

10. Geographical Data

Acres of Property: less than one acre

UTM References: 14/631120/3139300

Verbal Boundary Description:

The boundary of NAS Chase Field, Building 1040 is shown as the dashed line on the accompanying map entitled "NAS Chase Field, Site Plan of Building 1040"

Boundary Justification:

The boundary embraces a wedge-shaped area that encompasses Building 1040 and the grounds immediately surrounding the it that distinguish the historic resource from adjoining property.

11. Form Prepared By

Name/Title: David Moore/Project Director, Historian
Terri Myers/Historian
Diana Nicklaus/Research Assistant

Organization: Hardy·Heck·Moore & Associates
Street & Number: 2112 Rio Grande
City or Town: Austin

Date: June 1993
Telephone: 512-478-8014
State: TX Zip: 78705

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section numbers 7 and 8

Description

Building 1040 is a sprawling, multi-use building that is just north of the intersection of Enterprise Street and Independence Street, near the heart of NAS Chase Field. The front, which has a 3-part composition, faces southeast onto Enterprise Street where an unadorned awning extends across much of the facade. The building's footprint is shaped like an "L" and includes a large rear extension containing the gym. The auditorium is between the gym and the chapel, which includes the southwest portion of the building. The property has a concrete foundation and wood-frame construction that is covered with galbestos siding. The surrounding land is flat, with minimal plantings and landscape features. Although it does not have any stylistic ornamentation, Building 1040 is distinctive from other historic properties at the base because of its barrel-vaulted gym and its expansive plan. The property is in good condition and has had very little alteration to its exterior since its construction.

Building 1040 originally housed an auditorium, gym and chapel within a single edifice. Located in the northwest quadrant of the original grouping of buildings, the structure stands near the intersection of Enterprise and Independence streets. The grounds have grass lawns with the exception of a small parking lot on the northeastern edge of the building. Galbestos siding covers the exterior of the one-story building, which utilizes wood-frame construction. The building footprint is irregular but is roughly L-shaped in form.

The front faces southeast towards Enterprise Street. The most distinctive feature of the front is the three-part composition, with the barrel-vaulted roof over the gym to the northeast, a one-story auditorium in the middle, and the two-story chapel to the southwest. A 16-bay, shed-roof porch with square posts extends across the front. Both casement and fixed windows are used, and double-door entrances open from the chapel and gym sections of the building.

The interior of the gym contains wood-arched trusses and hardwood floors. Banking facilities were incorporated into the building in 1973, and additional rooms for Jewish and Catholic worshipers were completed in 1975 and 1976, respectively. Building 1040 continued as a recreational, social and religious center at NAS Chase Field until 1993 when the Navy closed the entire base.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section numbers 7 and 8

Statement of Significance

Building 1040, the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel, is a product of the enormous military construction program that built a network of naval aviation and auxiliary air stations to train pilots and crewmen for active duty during World War II. Built in 1943, during the initial period of construction at NAS Chase Field, the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel was a creative response to the war emergency conditions that restricted materials and labor for non-essential military construction. By combining three different types of support activities in a single facility, the Navy saved time, expense and, most importantly for the war effort, materials. As a result, the building has an unusual appearance but one that uniquely expresses the priorities of the auxiliary air station's mission during the war years. The building relates to *Chase Field: A World War II Naval Auxiliary Air Station, 1943-1946* and to the statewide context, *U.S. Military 1919-1945*.

The Auditorium/Gym/Chapel derives its significance from its historical association with Chase Field during the World War period and is therefore nominated to the National Register of Historic Places at the local level of significance under Criterion A. The Auditorium/Gym/Chapel is among the base's most unique buildings because its design encompasses a variety of functions and activities. Although built as a single edifice, the building acts as three separate units adjoined to one another. Typical pre-war and National Defense period training stations had separate gym, chapel and auditorium facilities but under the war-emergency conditions that prevailed during the construction of NAS Chase Field, such facilities were a lower priority. By combining several different functions within a single complex, the Navy saved resources needed for more direct, military-related construction.

Drawings for the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel were provided by Robert & Company, an Atlanta-based architectural and engineering firm that designed most of the buildings at NAS Chase Field and NAS Corpus Christi. The Houston-based consortium of Brown Bellows & Columbia served as general contractor for the project. In keeping with the austerity policy followed by the Bureau of Yards and Docks after 1942, the building is of temporary, frame construction and was intended to serve only for the duration of the war.

Although the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel was not critical to the actual training of Navy cadets, it played an important supportive role that contributed to the overall base mission. While construction projects directly linked to military objectives took precedence over such support facilities, the Navy recognized the vital role of recreation, socialization and religion, in maintaining the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of its personnel under the

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

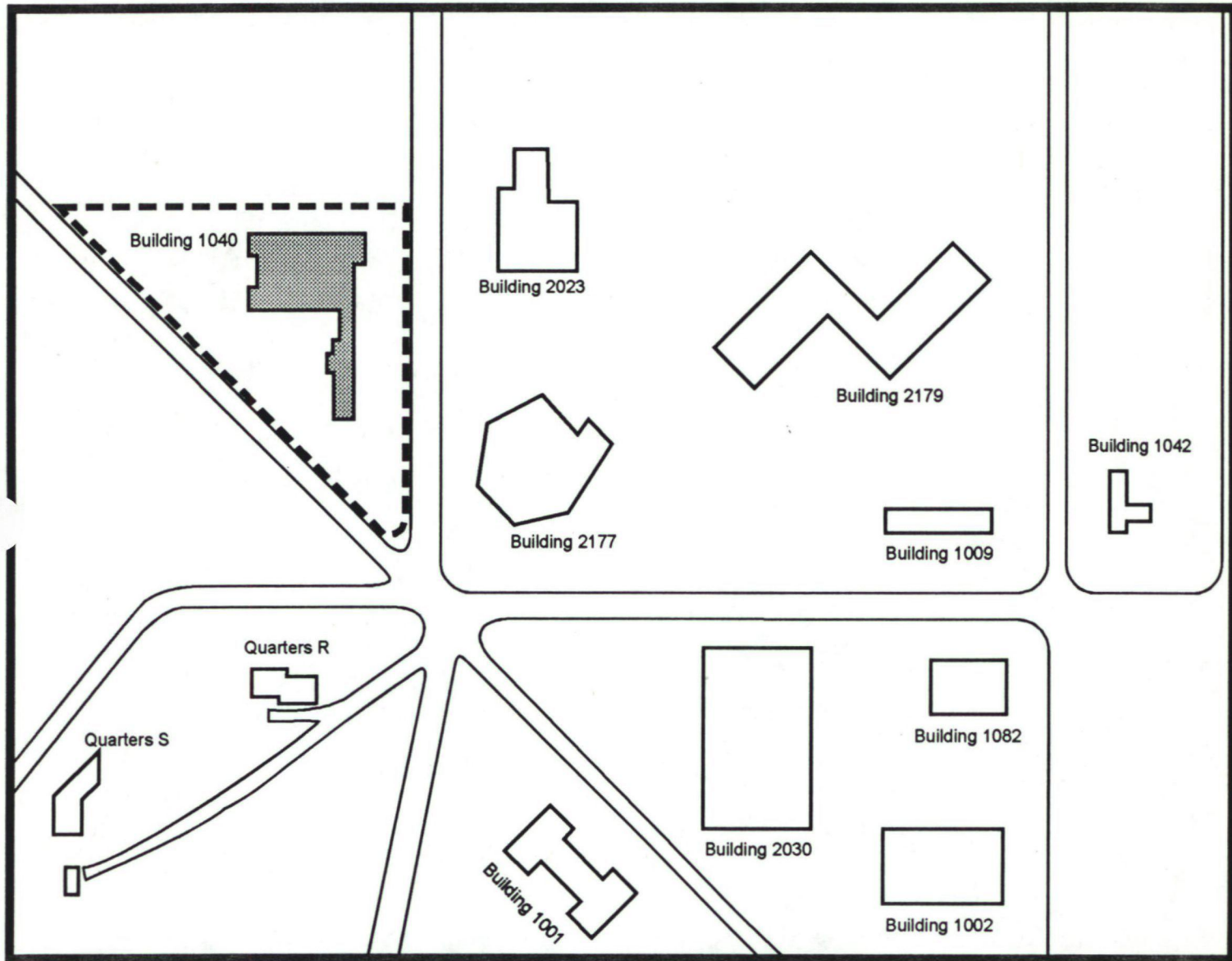
Section numbers 7 and 8

exacting conditions engendered by the world war (U.S. Bureau of Yards and Docks 1947: 269).

The Auditorium/Gym/Chapel represents the type of Spartan support facilities approved for bases under the stringent construction guidelines imposed by World War II. Unlike most other historic resources at NAS Chase Field, the Auditorium/Gym/Chapel defies classification within a single Property Type category because, in effect, it is three buildings incorporated into one. This configuration makes the property an uncommon and distinctive building form at NAS Chase Field. Despite its unique form, the building is not particularly noteworthy for its architectural merits. Although banking facilities have been added, the building appears much as it did when originally completed in 1943. Because it is relatively unchanged, it evokes a strong visual sense of the World War II period in which it was constructed. Its significance stems primarily from its close association with the naval auxiliary air station and to the successful pursuance of naval objectives during World War II.

NAS Chase Field, Site Plan of Building 1040

----- Boundaries



HHM & Associates, June 1993



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: NAS Chase Field--Building 1040

MULTIPLE NAME: NAS Chase Field MPS

STATE & COUNTY: TEXAS, Bee

DATE RECEIVED: 1/13/94 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/26/94
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/11/94 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/27/94
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 94000053

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 2/23/94 Entered in the
DATE National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



NAME OF PROPERTY: BUILDING 1040
LOCATION: ENTERPRISE STREET
NAS CHASE FIELD, BEEVILLE, TEXAS
PHOTO BY: DANIEL HARDY
DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: JUNE 1992
LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: TEXAS HIST. COMMISSION
AUSTIN, TEXAS
CAMERA LOOKING: NORTH
PHOTOGRAPH: 7 OF 14



GYMNASIUM

NAME OF PROPERTY: BUILDING 1040

LOCATION: ENTERPRISE STREET

NAS CHASE FIELD, BEEVILLE, TEXAS

PHOTO BY: DANIEL HARDY

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPH: JUNE 1992

LOCATION OF NEGATIVE: TEXAS HIST. COMMISSION
AUSTIN, TEXAS

CAMERA LOOKING: WEST

PHOTOGRAPH: 8 OF 14